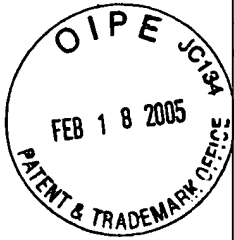


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MASUDA, Ko; TAKESHITA, Takashi; MATSUNAGA, Hiroshi
 Assignee: NHK SPRING CO., LTD.
 Title: VEHICLE OCCUPANT RESTRAINT SYSTEM
 Application No.: 10/613,737 Filing Date: 07/01/2003
 Examiner: Joseph F. Edell Group Art Unit: 3636
 Docket No.: AB-1324 US Confirmation No.: 5640

San Jose, California
 February 18, 2005

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(c) WITH
 CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the documents listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner for the above patent application. Copies of these documents are enclosed with the exception of any U.S. patents. The documents were first cited by the European Patent Office in a corresponding European Patent Application No. EP 03077005. The relevance of any foreign language documents is explained in the enclosed copy of the European Search Report.

Citation of these documents shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

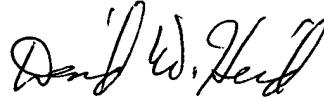
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No fee is believed to be required. If a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2257. This paper is being submitted in duplicate.

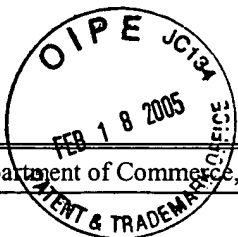
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Respectfully submitted,



David W. Heid
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 25,875



U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No.	Serial No.
	AB-1324 US	10/613,737
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Applicant(s)	
(Use several sheets if necessary)	MASUDA, Ko et al.	
	Filing Date	Group
	07/01/2003	3636

U.S. Patent Documents

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	US 2002/3365 A1	01/10/2002	Yamaguchi et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents

							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL	DE 100 11 818 A1	11/23/2000	Germany				X
	AM	DE 199 61 799 A1	07/05/2001	Germany				X
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AQ	
	AR	

Examiner

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.